

This qualification specification covers the following qualifications:

| Qualification Title | Qualification Number |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Award in Social Sciences | 601/1435/6 |
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Certificate in Social Sciences | 601/1436/8 |
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Diploma in Social Sciences | 601/1432/0 |

About this qualification specification

This qualification specification is intended for Tutors, Assessors, Internal verifiers, Centre Quality Managers and other staff within Gateway Qualifications recognised centres and/or prospective centres.

It sets out what is required of the learner in order to achieve the qualification. It also contains information specific to managing and delivering the qualification(s) including specific quality assurance requirements.

The guide should be read in conjunction with the Gateway Qualifications Centre Handbook and other publications available on the website which contain more detailed guidance on assessment and verification practice.

In order to offer this qualification, you must be a Gateway Qualifications recognised centre. If your centre is not yet recognised, please contact our Development Team to discuss becoming a Gateway Qualifications Recognised Centre:

Telephone: 01206 911211

Email: enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk

Website: www.gatewayqualifications.org.uk/recognition

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Qualification Information | 5 |
| 1.1 About the qualifications | 5 |
| 1.2 Objective | 5 |
| 1.3 Key Facts | 5 |
| 1.4 Funding | 6 |
| 1.5 Achievement methodology | 6 |
| 1.6 Geographical Coverage | 6 |
| 1.7 Progression Opportunities | 6 |
| 1.8 Relationship with other frameworks | 6 |
| 2 Learner Entry Requirements | 7 |
| 2.1 Age | 7 |
| 2.2 Prior Qualifications | 7 |
| 2.3 Prior Skills/Knowledge/Understanding | 7 |
| 2.4 Restrictions | 7 |
| 2.5 Access to qualifications for learners with disabilities or specific needs | 7 |
| 2.6 Additional Rules/Guidance | 7 |
| 3 Achieving the Qualification | 8 |
| 3.1 Qualification Structure (Rules of Combination and Unit List) | 8 |
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Award in Social Sciences | 8 |
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Certificate in Social Sciences | 9 |
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Diploma in Social Sciences | 10 |
| 3.2 Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) | 11 |
| 3.3 Links to other qualifications | 11 |
| 4 Assessment and Quality Assurance | 12 |
| 4.1 Method of Assessment | 12 |
| 4.2 Assessment Materials | 12 |
| 4.3 Qualification-Specific Centre Requirements | 12 |
| 4.4 Qualification-Specific Tutor/Assessor Requirements | 12 |
| 4.5 Qualification-Specific Verification Requirements | 12 |
| 5 What to do next | 13 |
| 6 Gateway Qualifications | 13 |

1. Qualification Information

1.1 About the qualifications

The qualifications have been approved by the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) that regulates qualifications, examinations and assessments in England.

This suite of social science qualifications have been developed in collaboration with Newham College Of Further Education to meet the needs of post 16 learners who are interested in the different disciplines that make up the social sciences but have not had any prior experience in this sector at Key Stage 4. They provide an introduction to law and citizenship in the UK and to different aspects of sociology for example sociology of the family and education. The Diploma in Social Sciences also supports the development of a learner's personal learning and thinking skills and provides the opportunity for a learner to complete a project in a particular area of interest. The Diploma may be used as part of a 16-19 study programme for Level 2 learners.

1.2 Objective

The Gateway Qualifications suite of Social Sciences qualifications are categorised as having the following objective, to support progression to further study.

1.3 Key Facts

| Qualification Title in full | Credit Value | Total Qualification Time | Guided Learning Hours |
|---|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Award in Social Sciences | 6 | 60 | 48 |
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Certificate in Social Sciences | 15 | 150 | 102 |
| Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Diploma in Social Sciences | 40 | 400 | 267 |

Total Qualification Time is the number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could be reasonably expected to be required for a Learner to achieve and demonstrate the achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of the qualification.

Total Qualification Time is comprised of the following two elements:

- the number of hours which an awarding organisation has assigned to a qualification for Guided Learning, and
- an estimate of the number of hours a Learner will reasonably be likely to spend in preparation, study or any other form of participation in education or training, including assessment, which takes place by – but, unlike Guided Learning, not under the Immediate Guidance or Supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

1.4 Funding

For information regarding potential sources of funding please visit the following websites;

The Education Funding Agency <http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/executiveagencies/efa>
The Skills Funding Agency <http://skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk/>

or, contact your local funding office.

1.5 Achievement methodology

The qualification will be awarded to learners who successfully achieve an approved combination of units through a Portfolio of Evidence that has been successfully verified and monitored through Gateway Qualifications' Quality Assurance process. Achievement is therefore determined by successful completion of unit assessment with no further requirement for additional/summative assessment.

1.6 Geographical Coverage

The qualifications have been approved by Ofqual to be offered in England.

1.7 Progression Opportunities

The suite of qualifications provides opportunities to progress to qualifications in the social sciences at Level 3 for example Law, Sociology. Learners taking the Diploma sized qualification can focus on a particular area in more depth when undertaking the Extended Project to support progression.

1.8 Relationship with other frameworks

There are no specific links to National Occupational Standards.

2 Learner Entry Requirements

2.1 Age

The approved age range for these qualifications is 16-18 and 19+.

2.2 Prior Qualifications

There is no requirement for learners to have achieved prior qualifications. If learners do not have qualifications at Level 2 in English and Maths they should be working towards these qualifications

2.3 Prior Skills/Knowledge/Understanding

There is no requirement for learners to have prior skills, knowledge or understanding.

2.4 Restrictions

There are no restrictions to entry.

2.5 Access to qualifications for learners with disabilities or specific needs

It is Gateway Qualifications' aim that there shall be equal opportunities within this organisation and in all the services it provides and within its recognised centres and via the services they provide and so meet the organisation's legal responsibilities to prevent discrimination.

In particular it is the organisation's intention that there should be no discrimination on the grounds of a protected characteristic including age, disability, gender assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex, sexual orientation. It is acknowledged that this is not an exhaustive list.

Gateway Qualifications and recognised centres have a responsibility to ensure that the process of assessment is robust and fair and allows the learner to show what they know and can do without compromising the assessment criteria.

Special Considerations

Requests for special consideration should be submitted as soon as possible. Please refer to the [Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration Policy](#).

2.6 Additional Rules/Guidance

There are no additional rules or guidance regarding learner entry requirements.

3 Achieving the Qualification

3.1 Qualification Structure (Rules of Combination and Unit List)

The knowledge, skills and understanding that will be assessed as part of the qualification are set out within the unit specifications. These include the learning outcomes and associated assessment criteria. To obtain unit information, please contact Gateway Qualifications who will enable access to our unit library.

Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Award in Social Sciences

To achieve the Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Award In Social Sciences, learners must complete the two units in Group M (Mandatory), totalling 6 credits.

| Unit Reference Number | Title | Level | Credit Value | GLH | Subject Sector code | Group Name |
|-----------------------|--|-------|--------------|-----|---------------------|------------|
| J/505/6038 | Law in Action: Tort | 2 | 3 | 24 | 15.5 | Mandatory |
| A/505/6036 | Democracy, Power and Participation in the UK | 2 | 3 | 24 | 11.3 | Mandatory |

Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Certificate in Social Sciences

To achieve the Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Certificate In Social Sciences, learners must complete a total of 15 credits, with 6 credits from Group M (Mandatory) and 9 from Group O1 (Optional units: Social Sciences).

| Unit Reference Number | Title | Level | Credit Value | GLH | Subject Sector code | Group Name |
|-----------------------|---|-------|--------------|-----|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| J/505/6038 | Law in Action: Tort | 2 | 3 | 24 | 15.5 | Mandatory |
| A/505/6036 | Democracy, Power and Participation in the UK | 2 | 3 | 24 | 11.3 | Mandatory |
| L/505/6039 | The Sociology of Education | 2 | 3 | 24 | 11.2 | Optional units: Social Sciences |
| R/505/6043 | The Sociology of the Family | 2 | 3 | 24 | 11.2 | Optional units: Social Sciences |
| J/505/6041 | Law in Action: Criminal Law | 2 | 3 | 24 | 15.5 | Optional units: Social Sciences |
| F/505/6037 | Community Action and Active Citizenship | 2 | 3 | 24 | 14.1 | Optional units: Social Sciences |
| D/505/1086 | Carrying out an Extended Project | 2 | 6 | 30 | 14.1 | Optional units: Social Sciences |
| F/505/6040 | Global Citizenship | 2 | 3 | 24 | 14.1 | Optional units: Social Sciences |
| Y/505/6044 | Equal Opportunities, Prejudice and Discrimination | 2 | 3 | 24 | 14.1 | Optional units: Social Sciences |

Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Diploma in Social Sciences

To achieve the Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Diploma In Social Sciences, learners must complete a total of 40 credits including all units within Group M (Mandatory) totalling 30 credits and 10 credits from Group O1 (Optional units: Personal Learning and Thinking Skills).

| Unit Reference Number | Title | Level | Credit Value | GLH | Subject Sector code | Group Name |
|-----------------------|---|-------|--------------|-----|---------------------|---|
| J/505/6038 | Law in Action: Tort | 2 | 3 | 24 | 15.5 | Mandatory |
| A/505/6036 | Democracy, Power and Participation in the UK | 2 | 3 | 24 | 11.3 | Mandatory |
| L/505/6039 | The Sociology of Education | 2 | 3 | 24 | 11.2 | Mandatory |
| R/505/6043 | The Sociology of the Family | 2 | 3 | 24 | 11.2 | Mandatory |
| J/505/6041 | Law in Action: Criminal Law | 2 | 3 | 24 | 15.5 | Mandatory |
| F/505/6037 | Community Action and Active Citizenship | 2 | 3 | 24 | 14.1 | Mandatory |
| D/505/1086 | Carrying out an Extended Project | 2 | 6 | 30 | 14.1 | Mandatory |
| F/505/6040 | Global Citizenship | 2 | 3 | 24 | 14.1 | Mandatory |
| Y/505/6044 | Equal Opportunities, Prejudice and Discrimination | 2 | 3 | 24 | 14.1 | Mandatory |
| K/505/1088 | Effective Learning | 2 | 4 | 30 | 14.1 | Optional units: Personal Learning and Thinking Skills |
| Y/504/6257 | Skills for Independent Enquirers | 2 | 2 | 15 | 14.1 | Optional units: Personal Learning and Thinking Skills |
| T/504/6251 | Skills for Team Workers | 2 | 2 | 15 | 14.1 | Optional units: Personal Learning and Thinking Skills |
| M/504/6913 | Skills for Reflective Learners | 2 | 2 | 15 | 14.1 | Optional units: Personal Learning and Thinking Skills |
| D/504/6308 | Skills for Self Managers | 2 | 2 | 15 | 14.1 | Optional units: Personal Learning and Thinking Skills |
| D/504/6261 | Skills for Creative Thinkers | 2 | 2 | 15 | 14.1 | Optional units: Personal Learning and Thinking Skills |
| A/504/7627 | Skills for Effective Participants | 2 | 2 | 15 | 14.1 | Optional units: Personal Learning and Thinking Skills |

3.2 Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) provides learners and Centres with an alternative assessment method by which a learner's previous achievements can meet the assessment requirements for a unit/qualification through the knowledge, understanding or skills that they already possess and so, do not need to develop these through a course of learning.

It enables the recognition of achievement from a range of activities using any valid assessment methodology. Provided that the assessment requirements of a given unit or qualification have been met, the use of RPL is acceptable to contribute to a unit, units or a whole qualification according to the RPL criteria for a given qualification.

*The recognition of prior learning is permitted for this qualification and includes the prior attainment of units on a qualification offered by Gateway Qualifications, e.g. where a learner progresses from a smaller qualification to a larger qualification and where the qualifications have shared content such as an Award, Certificate and/or Diploma.

Centres should refer to the Gateway Qualifications' Recognition of Prior Learning policy and follow the process available on the website.

| Qualification Number | Qualification Title | RPL Permitted |
|----------------------|--|---------------|
| 601/1435/6 | Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Award in Social Sciences | No |
| 601/1436/8 | Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Certificate in Social Sciences* | Yes |
| 601/1432/0 | Gateway Qualifications Level 2 Diploma in Social Sciences* | Yes |

3.3 Links to other qualifications

The Diploma in Social Sciences supports the development of personal learning and thinking skills and shares with the Level 2 Employability and Personal Learning and Thinking Skills Qualifications.

4 Assessment and Quality Assurance

The following are in addition to the standard assessment and quality assurance requirements set out in the Gateway Qualifications Centre Handbook.

4.1 Method of Assessment

The method of assessment for the qualifications is through a portfolio of evidence.

4.2 Assessment Materials

There are no specific assessment materials provided for this qualification.

4.3 Qualification-Specific Centre Requirements

Centres must ensure that they have the appropriate resources in place the qualifications and associated units.

4.4 Qualification-Specific Tutor/Assessor Requirements

There are no additional tutor/assessor requirements for these qualifications.

4.5 Qualification-Specific Verification Requirements

There are no additional verifications requirements for these qualifications.

5 What to do next

For existing centres please contact your named Development Manager or Development Officer.

For organisations, not yet registered as a Gateway Qualifications centre please contact:

Gateway Qualifications
Gateway House
3 Tollgate Business Park
COLCHESTER
CO3 8AB

Tel: 01206 8763023

Email: enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk

6 Gateway Qualifications

Gateway Qualifications, a not for profit registered charity, is an Awarding Organisation based in Colchester.

We work with learning providers and industry experts to design and develop qualifications that benefit the learner and the employer.

We support flexible, responsive and quality assured learning opportunities whether it's in the classroom, at work, in the community or through distance learning.

We are recognised by Ofqual, to design, develop and submit qualifications to the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).



Charity Registration No. 114282
Registered in England Company No. 5502449

enquiries@gatewayqualifications.org.uk
www.gatewayqualifications.org.uk
Tel: 01206 911 211

Gateway Qualifications, Gateway House,
3 Tollgate Business Park, Colchester CO3 8AB